


REMARKS

In response to the election requirement in the Office Action of August 29, 2002, Applicants hereby elect without traverse the Group I claims - that is, claims 1-14, drawn to a laser irradiation apparatus. Claims 15-41 have been canceled and claims 1-8 and 11-12 have been amended herewith. Accordingly, claims 1-14 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 11 are independent.

Examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Robinson
Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C.
PMB 955
21010 Southbank Street
Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165
(571) 434-6789



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 15-41 without prejudice to Applicant's right to file a divisional application with respect thereto.

Please amend claims 1-8 and 11-12 as follows:

1. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:
two reflectors for splitting said laser beam.
2. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 1, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.
3. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:
two reflectors for beam splitting, each of said reflectors including a plurality of reflective surfaces,
wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.
4. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 3, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.
5. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:
two reflectors for beam splitting;

one of said reflectors including a plurality of reflective surfaces, any of said plurality of reflective surfaces being in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola;

the other of said reflectors including a plurality of plane mirrors.

6. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 5, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

7. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

a laser oscillator; and

two reflectors for splitting said laser beam, each including a plurality of reflective surfaces,

wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.

8. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus of claim 7, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

11. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

a laser oscillator;

a first reflector for splitting said laser beam, said first reflector including a plurality of reflective surfaces; and

a second reflector for splitting said laser beam, said second reflector including a plurality of plane mirrors,

wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.

12. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus of claim 11, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.